



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/725,940	12/03/2003	Chiyoko Matsumi	MTS-3582US	4467
52473	7590	10/02/2007		
RATNERPRESTIA P.O. BOX 980 VALLEY FORGE, PA 19482			EXAMINER SHIH, HAOSHIAN	
			ART UNIT 2173	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 10/02/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/725,940

Applicant(s)

MATSUMI ET AL.

Examiner

Haoshian Shih

Art Unit

2173

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 August 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 20070925.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-18 are pending in this application and have been examined in response to application amendment filed on 08/15/2007.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. **Claims 1-2 and 4-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nonaka et al. (Nonaka, US 6,614,732 B2).**

4. As to **INDEPENDENT** claim 1, Nonaka discloses a recording and reproducing system comprising:

a record medium holding (1) a plurality of data files of storing predetermined data (2) a plurality of play list files of storing a play list describing reproduction order (col.9, lines 44-45; "order of reproduction") of said plurality of data files (col.9, lines 36-44; the hard disk stores and manages play lists and data files), and (3) a play list file menu file of storing a play list file menu which is information of selecting a predetermined play list file of said plurality of play list files (col.3, lines 62-66; fig.11(a) and fig.11(b) indicates a structure of play lists);

play list file menu storing means of storing said play list file in a play list file menu file (col.3, lines 62-66; fig.11(a) and fig.11(b) indicates a structure of play lists);

play list file menu display means of displaying to the outside play list file menu information on all or a part of said stored play list file menu (fig.12, "24"; col.10, lines 48-53; a menu of play lists are displayed);

play list file selecting means of selecting said predetermined play list file according to an instruction from the outside (fig.12 "23c"; col.10, lines 35-40; a jog dial is provided for the user to select different play lists); and

data reproducing means of reproducing the predetermined data stored by said plurality of data files respectively by using said reproduction order based on said selected play list file (fig.12, "23f"; col.10, lines 45-47; "hard disc recording button").

5. As to claim 2, Nonaka discloses wherein said play list file menu display means displays said play list file menu information in consideration of a type of said predetermined data reproducible by said data reproducing means (col.2, lines 39-42; the "identification information" provides the necessary means for the reproducing means to function properly).

6. As to claim 4, Nonaka discloses wherein said play list file menu display means displays said play list file menu information by using predetermined text data on all or a part of said play list (fig.12, "24", col.8, lines 2-4; text information from the play list is displayed).

7. As to **INDEPENDENT** claim 5, see rationale addressed in the rejection of claim 1 above.

8. As to claim 6, Nonaka discloses the play list file menu information on all or a part of said stored play list file menu is displayed to the outside (fig.12, "24"; col.10, lines 48-53), said predetermined play list file is selected according to an instruction from the outside (fig.12, "23c", col.10, lines 35-40), and the predetermined data stored by said plurality of data files respectively is reproduced by using said reproduction order based on said selected play list file (fig.12, "23f", col. 10, lines 45-47).

9. As to **INDEPENDENT** claim 7, see rationale addressed in the rejection of claim 1 above.

10. As to **INDEPENDENT** claim 8, see rationale addressed in the rejection of claim 1 above.

11. As to claim 9, see rationale addressed in the rejection of claim 6 above.

12. As to **INDEPENDENT** claim 10, see rationale addressed in the rejection of claim 1 above.

Art Unit: 2173

13. As to **INDEPENDENT** claim 11, see rationale addressed in the rejection of claim 1 above.

14. As to **INDEPENDENT** claim 12, see rationale addressed in the rejection of claim 1 above.

As to **INDEPENDENT** claim 13, see rationale addressed in the rejection of claim 1 above.

15. As to **INDEPENDENT** claim 14, see rationale addressed in the rejection of claim 1 above.

16. As to **INDEPENDENT** claim 15, see rationale addressed in the rejection of claim 1 above.

17. As to **INDEPENDENT** claim 16, see rationale addressed in the rejection of claim 1 above.

18. As to **INDEPENDENT** claim 17, see rationale addressed in the rejection of claim 1 above.

Art Unit: 2173

19. As to **INDEPENDENT** claim 18, see rationale addressed in the rejection of claim 1 above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

20. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

21. **Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nonaka in view of Proehl et al (Proehl, US 6,118,450).**

22. As to claim 3, Nonaka does not disclose wherein said play list file menu display means displays said play list file menu information by using a thumbnail image changing according to a state in which said play list file selecting means selects said predetermined play list file.

In the same field of endeavor, Proehl discloses using thumbnail images to represent each of the play list file (fig.2 "440"; "TEXT W/ THUMBNAIL").

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teaching of Nonaka and Proehl before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the playlist

Art Unit: 2173

manipulation taught by Nonaka to include thumbnail images taught by Proehl with the motivation being to present an image association with a particular genre (Proehl, col.4, lines 3-5).

Response to Arguments

23. Applicant's arguments filed 08/15/2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

24. Applicant argues Nonaka does not disclose that play list may be managed by play list file menus that are held on the record medium.

In response to applicant's argument, Nonaka discloses that both data file and play list files are stored on a recording medium such as a hard drive (col.2, lines 34-35, lines 55-57) and the play list is managed by play list file menus (fig.12, "24"; col.10, lines 48-53; a menu of play lists are displayed).

Conclusion

25. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

Art Unit: 2173


TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Haoshian Shih whose telephone number is (571) 270-1257. The examiner can normally be reached on m-f 0730-1700.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached on (571) 272-4048. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

HASS


JOHN CABECA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100